



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 227**

February Session, 2016

Substitute House Bill No. 5279

*House of Representatives, March 29, 2016*

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. DARGAN of the 115th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING OATHS TAKEN BY PERSONS EMPLOYED  
OR ASSOCIATED WITH CIVIL PREPAREDNESS ORGANIZATIONS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 28-12 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2016*):

3 No person shall be employed or associated in any capacity in any  
4 civil preparedness organization established under this chapter who  
5 advocates a change by force or violence in the constitutional form of  
6 the government of the United States or of this state or the overthrow of  
7 any government in the United States by force or violence, or who has  
8 been convicted of or is under indictment or information charging any  
9 subversive act against the United States. Each person who is appointed  
10 to serve in an organization for civil preparedness shall, before entering  
11 upon his or her duties, and [annually] every two years thereafter, take  
12 an oath orally before a local civil preparedness officer or officers  
13 empowered by the commissioner to enlist volunteers, which oath shall

14 be substantially as follows: "I, ..., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I  
15 will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the  
16 Constitution of the state of Connecticut, against all enemies, foreign  
17 and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that  
18 I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose  
19 of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon  
20 which I am about to enter." Each local civil preparedness officer shall  
21 provide to the department a roster of sworn volunteer civil  
22 preparedness force members on or before the fifteenth of August each  
23 year.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2016</i>	28-12
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**PS**            *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

***OFA Fiscal Note***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

***Explanation***

The bill, which requires a person employed or associated with a civil preparedness organization to take a loyalty oath every two years instead of annually, has no fiscal impact.

***The Out Years***

***State Impact:*** None

***Municipal Impact:*** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 5279****AN ACT CONCERNING OATHS TAKEN BY PERSONS EMPLOYED  
OR ASSOCIATED WITH CIVIL PREPAREDNESS  
ORGANIZATIONS.****SUMMARY:**

This bill reduces, from annually to every two years, the frequency with which anyone appointed to serve in a town's civil preparedness organization must take the following loyalty oath:

I, ..., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of Connecticut, against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

By law, each town must establish or join with other towns to establish a local civil preparedness organization in accordance with the state civil preparedness plan and program. The organization performs civil preparedness functions within its territorial limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2016

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/10/2016)